

Charles Town Court House
Charles Town, West Virginia
JEFFERSON Co.

HABS No. WVa. 21-4

HABS
W.VA.,
19. CHART,
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of West Virginia

Historic American Buildings Survey
Herbert S. Kyle, District Officer
1107 Union Bldg., Charleston, W. Va.

CHARLES TOWN COURT HOUSE
Charles Town, Jefferson County, West Virginia

19. CHART

3 -

Owner Jefferson County.

Date of Erection Originally erected 1801.

Present Condition Good. Originally one story. Rebuilt.
Jail added.

Number of Stories Two.

Materials of Construction Stone foundation. Brick walls.
Wood roof trusses. Wood floor
and ceiling framing. Wood finished floors. Windows
two sash, double sliding. The wood roof trusses, if
of the original materials, appear to have been rebuilt.
In the interior of the Court Room, the railing which
divides the room into its several parts, including the
railing for the Judge's bench, have bottom and top rail,
with turned balusters. The balusters of the two inter-
ior stairways are turned throughout the entire length.
The novel posts are turned. The room in which the trial
of John Brown was held has been changed by the erection
of a partition.

Other Existing Records Newsprints from old newspapers.
Old pictures, custody A. V. Garney,
Charles Town. Letters and family records, custody of
Lucy Johnston Ambler, Charles Town, W. Va.
"When Tidewater Invaded the Valley - A Tribute to the Men
of Lower Virginie in the Days of The John Brown Raid",
By Lucy Johnston Ambler. Privately printed, Spirit of
Jefferson Press, Charles Town, West Virginia. October 1934.

Additional Data Located at corner of George and
Washington Streets on land given to
the town by Charles Washington for public use. During
the Civil War it was partly destroyed and the county seat
was moved to Shepherdstown in 1872. The building was
restored and enlarged about 1887 and Charles Town again
became the county seat. Two of the three trials for
treason held in the United States were tried in this
building. The other besides John Brown was that of
William Blizzard and others in 1831, for an armed march
on the non-union coal fields of Logan county, West Virginia.

The Transmitter, August 1930.
"Capt. John Brown & Harper's Ferry"
By Boyd B. Stutler.
History of Jefferson County - Hardesty.

Theresa M. Mathes

Approved *Robert P. Ogle*,
Received July 26, 1936.

June 26, 1936.